



CALPEEK

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STATE TREASURER'S RACE: ANGELIDES VS. FONG

Editor's note: Here is another in our series of reports about down-ballot races. This week: the battle for State Treasurer...

...Former CA Demo Party Chair Phil Angelides is trailing BoE member Matt Fong(R) in the race to succeed Kathleen Brown as State Treasurer with 22 days to go until the Nov. 8 election. In the latest Field Poll, Fong held a 32% to 21% lead, with the rest undecided. But some sources suspect the race is much closer...

...For one thing, the Field Poll doesn't mention ballot title when polling. Angelides is listed as "businessman-financial manager." Fong's title is "Appointed member of the State Bd. of Equalization." In an era when elected officials are *running away* from being tagged as a "political insider," Angelides probably has a small advantage here. And indeed, private Angelides polling suggests the ballot title helps, although sources do say he's still behind Fong --- but by a smaller margin...

...However, when it comes to fundraising and collecting a big warchest, Angelides is the master. As of Sept. 30, Angelides had amassed \$4.09 million, while Fong was at \$1.26 million. In the critical *cash-on-hand*, Fong is at \$780,076 and Angelides is at \$1.45 million. Yes, Angelides has loaned himself lots of money, but there's a saying in politics --- *green is green, as long as it buys tv time*. In terms of TV, Angelides has already paid for about \$500,000 and another \$1-1.5 million is planned. Fong won't have that kind of money for TV, but he will be competitive and will be able to respond when the hits start to fly...

...And in a race like treasurer, it's paid TV which makes the difference. Because Fong has better name ID and is leading right now, sources say it is a given Angelides must go *negative* to cut Fong's lead. Does Fong have

weak spots? The Angelides team is probing, but nothing dramatic so far. Is there a danger if Angelides is too negative? Yes. In the primary Angelides was blasted by the media for his attack ad trying to link pro-life primary opponent David Roberti to the murder of an MD at a Florida family planning clinic. In the opinion of several sources, it was *overkill*...

...Some GOP sources think Angelides will have trouble closing the gap, despite the warchest, because his Demo base is not secure due to of the bitterness which still lingers with Roberti supporters. In fact, there is a group known as Democrats for Fong, but they are small in numbers, aren't well known Statewide and aren't rolling in money. Bottomline: Fong leads for now, but Angelides' money could narrow the gap. Stay tuned...

U.S. SENATE RACE: HAS HUFFINGTON PEAKED???

Editor's note: One definition of the word *peak* is *the point of greatest intensity*. In a political context, it means just about the same thing. So the questions is: has GOP U.S. Senate candidate Michael Huffington peaked? Here is CALPEEK's analysis...

...In just the last week or two, CALPEEK sources have begun to speculate that perhaps Huffington has peaked and that all the TV ads bashing U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D) are no longer having the impact they once had. In other words, voters are saying, "Another Huffington ad bashing DiFi. So what's new? I've seen enough." And certainly with the huge amount of TV time Huffington is buying, this scenario is very possible...

...Although the race is still very close, there is some indication that perhaps DiFi holds a slight lead at this time (22 days left as of Oct. 17). Huffington's numbers still hover in that 39-43% range, and that's mostly the GOP base --- meaning he's got to drain off Demo votes

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if he is to beat DiFi...

...At the same time, the *negative press* surrounding the candidate and his wife, Arianna, continue to mount. This is not helpful and in fact may be having an impact on Huffington's Republican voter base. And there's no evidence just yet that what some are now calling **Operation Scrutiny** is about to peak. The latest hits are in the L.A. Times, in a series of 3 back-to-back articles, beginning Oct. 9th with Glenn Bunting's "record comparison" story, followed by Dave Leshner's story about Arianna's key role in the campaign (headline: Huffington's Wife Runs Campaign, Ex-Aides Say), and ending with a Leshner & Bob Sipchen story focusing on Arianna's links to cult guru John-Roger and his Church of the Movement of Spiritual Inner Awareness (MSIA)...

...And when political cartoonists Oliphant and Conrad start taking shots, you know you're in trouble. Both cartoonist aimed their barbs at Arianna - showing her to be in control of her husband --- *The Manchurian Candidate*, as a recent NY Times op-ed piece suggests. CALPEEK sources expect the next phase in Operation Scrutiny will be editorials --- either warning voters about Mr. & Mrs. H or endorsing DiFi. Stay tuned...

INITIATIVE UPDATE: NO ON 187 CLOSING GAP.

Editor's note: There are some signs that Prop. 187, the SOS measure to bar illegal immigrants from a whole range of tax-supported services, is beginning to lose steam. Here's a brief update & analysis...

...A new poll by The Tarrance Group for the NO on 187 campaign shows this initiative really starting to slip. In an Oct. 2-5 poll of 1,000 voters, 53% are in favor, while 35% are against and 12% remain undecided. When a *push question* is thrown into the mix (CA newspapers report that 187 was written by the lobbyist of an anti-immigration group that is bankrolled by a white supremacist organization), the numbers drop to 33% YES, 46% NO and 21% undecided...

...The push question could be significant because right now NO on 187 is on radio and part of the ad mentions the bit about *white supremacists*. It's vague, but it's in this :60 sec. spot which is airing Statewide. No

word on the cost of this first buy and no word yet about when or if there will be enough money for a solid TV campaign...

...As for money, the NO on 187 campaign is well short of its \$3-4 million budget, with only \$820,996 raised since July (through Sept. 30). October is a big fund-raising month, so perhaps NO on 187 will meet its goal. On the other hand, YES on 187 is in *big trouble*. Since July, the SOS Cmt. has raised only \$124,468 --- and they are in debt...

...And according to a story in the Oct. 7th issue of the Orange Co. Register (by Marilyn Kalfus & Rosalva Hernandez), there's an *internal feud* within the YES on 187 campaign. Harold Ezell, who co-authored 187 with Alan Nelson, is *critical* of Prop. 187 co-chairs Ron Prince & Barbara Coe...

...FYI: The powerful CA Medical Assn. (CMA) says it will file an immediate lawsuit to block implementation of Prop. 187 should it pass on Nov. 8th. Stay tuned...

LEGISLATIVE RACES: FALL ELECTION BATTLES.

Editor's note: Here is an update on some key Assembly and State Senate races...

- **56th A.D.** - Demo Assemblyman Bob Epple of Norwalk is one of the GOP's top targets. GOP businessman Phil Hawkins is making his 2nd run against Epple. In 1992, he lost by just .4% and that was in a big Demo year. Demos are putting a major emphasis on field/GOTV work and funding will not be a problem. Demos think Hawkins is a flawed and lackluster candidate, who has no record of civic involvement. As one Demo noted, "What's he done in the community since his loss in 1992?" The Demo registration effort has been strong (17,002 new Demos since 1/1/94), whereas the GOP effort has been just so-so. At last count, Demos had a 50.9% to 37.5% edge. FYI: Epple is a major target of the **gun lobby**, who hosted the 1st annual David Roberti Dinner & Pig Roast. Gun lobby sources say they have \$17,000 in a special war chest to use against Epple, who is their #1 target this year. Bottomline: too close to call...

- **69th A.D.** - This is retiring Demo Tom Umberg's Orange Co. seat and the O.C. GOP Central Cmt. makes no secret this is their top target in 1994. The Demo is former Santa Ana CoFC President Mike Metzler and the

GOP candidate is businessman Jim Morrissey. The Demo registration drive in the 69th has been heavy (with 9,582 new Demos) and they've jumped registration from 53.9% to 56.2% in recent weeks. But they may need this edge just to make the race close because Metzler came out NO on 187 --- and even he admits that this will hurt him. Morrissey is YES on 187. In addition, sources say Morrissey has taken a page from Umberg's campaign book and has gone after voters living in mobilehome parks. Metzler has bucks, but so does Morrissey because State Sen. Rob Hurtt(R) doesn't want Metzler looking over his shoulder. Both sides want this one real bad...

- **6th S.D.** - There's finally some signs of life in this battle between incumbent Demo State Sen. Leroy Greene and GOP Sacto Co. Sup. Dave Cox. Both candidates are on TV, with Greene going after Cox with a hard-hitting ad which Cox says is totally untrue. Subject: does Cox vote for projects sponsored by former campaign contributors? On the other hand, Greene had egg all over his face when he tried to duck questions about 3 accidents he had in State-owned cars. Cox has done okay on fundraising, but Greene probably has an edge here. Demos are keeping a close eye on this race, with Greene regarded as a slight favorite...

- **28th S.D.** - Can veteran State Sen. Ralph Dills(D) beat young David Barrett Cohen, the GOP attorney of Redondo Beach? Polling data from the Cohen campaign (by Moore Information, 350 sample size) taken in mid-September shows Dills with 29%, Cohen with 21%, others with 9% and 41% undecided. If this was Dills' old district you'd be surprised, but because of reapportionment, there's lots of new turf for Dills. In the primary, Dills pumped out 15 pieces of mail and had a huge billboard buy, with the slogan, "Too Old To Quit," which is now a campaign theme. Leave it to consultant Richie Ross to come up with something like this - turning the attack into a positive. GOP Senate Leadership would love to pull an upset here, but it will cost them a pretty penny. Is there a way to get off cheap? Not in politics. Cohen recently sent out an S-O-S to GOP fatcats, saying that if he has the money to get the word out, he'll win. So money is a big problem. FYI: Dills, U.S. Rep. Jane Harman & Assemblywoman Debra Bowen have teamed up for a joint VBM/GOTV project...

- **16th S.D.** - In the battle of the *surveys*, both incumbent State Sen. Phil Wyman(R) and Assemblyman Jim Costa(D) have polling data which they are flashing to political reporters. The poll Costa is showing was not paid for by him, but rather was commissioned by the Bakersfield Californian (Sept. 19-23). It shows Costa leading, 48% to 39%. The Wyman poll was paid for by Wyman and was done by Meta Information (Sept. 27), 400 sample size. It shows Wyman with 42.3% and Costa with 37.0%. Stay tuned...

U.S. HOUSE RACES: FALL ELECTION BATTLES.

Editor's note: Here is an update on some key U.S. House campaigns...

- **1st C.D.** - This race remains on CALPEEK's *watch list* because there's a chance that former GOP Congressman Frank Riggs could upset current U.S. Rep. Dan Hamburg(D). A Sept. 18th survey in the Santa Rosa Press Democrat (sample 500 voters) showed Riggs 37%, Hamburg 35%, others at 3% and 25% undecided. With the margin of error, the race is dead even. What this means is that the Demos who voted for former Congressman Doug Bosco in the primary are *critical* in the general. The survey indicates that about 50% of Bosco's supporters will cross party lines for Riggs. The 1st C.D. has a 51.54(D) vs. 33.48(R) registration. Too close to call...

- **19th C.D.** - Even though U.S. Rep. Rick Lehman's consultant Darry Sragow regards the George Radanovich poll by Public Opinion Strategies as "garbage," the 300 sample size poll shows Demo Lehman leading by a margin of 42% to 39%. Not surprisingly, GOper Radanovich beats Lehman handily when those *push questions* (did you know so-in-so was a bleap-bleap) are asked. Lehman has been on TV for 6 weeks (3 weeks of pro-Lehman ads and 3 weeks of bashing Radanovich). The theme is that Radanovich as a supervisor says "one thing, but does another." Lehman accuses Radanovich as being a *tax & spend politician* and is now going after Radanovich for signing the GOP "Contract With America" pledge -- the one Pres. Clinton calls a "Contract ON America," a reference to the fact that the GOP doesn't say how this plan will be paid for. Lehman still has money left to finish strong and Radanovich promises supporters he'll show more than \$100,000 cash-on-hand in the next report. Terrible registration numbers for a Demo, but this race is still too close to call. Stay tuned...

WILL SLATE CARD MADNESS HIT CALIF. ONCE AGAIN?

Editor's note: In the June '92 election cycle, slate cards were a **bust** and didn't have nearly the impact that such cards have had in past elections. Will the general election cycle of 1992 be different? Slates are about ready to go, so here's an update...

...It's pretty much the same established group of political consultants who are producing the slate cards for the general, with one exception. Gone is ***Berman & D'Agostino Campaigns***. They had problems getting their slate out in the primary and are now involved in a legal hassle with Pacific Admail. Why were slates so ineffective in the primary? The feeling is there were just too many of them, *especially* Demo slates...

...Here's a brief list on the major slates produced by political consultants. This list doesn't include slates produced by unions, political clubs and PACs. The name of the slate is in *italic*, followed by the name of the consultant...

...**GOP Slates** - *Non Patrisan Candidate Evaluation Council*(Allan Hoffenblum); *Team for the 90s*(Wayne Johnson); *Taxfighters Voting Guide*(Butcher, Forde & Mollich); *Citizens Safety Council*(David Fondots); and *So. Calif. Voter Guide*(Pete Schabarum's slate)...

...**Demo Slates** - *Voter Information Guide*(Larry Levine); *Your Ballot Guide*(Jill Barad); *Calif. Democratic Voters Checklist*(Clint Reilly); *Democratic Voter Guide II*(Jerry Seedborg); *Your Pro-Choice Voter Guide* and *Your Law & Order Voter Guide*(Bill Berry & Phil Muller); *Maxine Waters Official Sample Ballot slate*(Leslie Winner); *The Calif. Democrat* (Willard Murray); *The Unity Slate*(Mervyn Dymally). Slatemaker Fred Huebscher will also produce several slates in this cycle...

...**Other slates** - some of these are bi-partisan slates. *The Seniors slate*(Paul Michael Neuman); *Access Now for Gay & Lesbian Equality*(David Mixner); *Handgun Control, Inc. slate*, *Fund for a Feminist Majority - Pro Choice slate* and *CA Sr. Citizens Council slate* (The Englander Group); and *The Peace Officers & Crime Victims United slate*(Allan Hoffenblum). Stay tuned...

DOWN-BALLOT RACES: WHO'S GOT THE MONEY??

Editor's note: Campaign contribution reports are in an here's a brief report about how well (or how poorly) some of the down-ballot Statewide candidates are doing in the all import **money game**. Column #1 will be the total amount raised to date (from Jan. 1 to Sept 30); #2 will be the total amount spent (year to date); and column #3 will be cash-on-hand (COH)...

Lt. Governor	Raised	Spent	COH
Davis(D)	\$1.65 mil	\$1.73 mil	\$1.70 mil
Wright(R)	\$429,162	\$448,315	\$72,671

Attorney General

Lungren(R-Inc)	\$1.39 mil	\$912,868	\$1.13 mil
Umberg(D)	\$1.22 mil	\$613,525	\$712,436

Controller

Connell(D)	\$2.27 mil	\$1.73 mil	\$502,514
McClintock(R)	\$737,131	\$575,697	\$193,353

Treasurer

Angelides(D)	\$4.09 mil	\$3.54 mil	\$1.45 mil
Fong(R)	\$1.26 mil	\$784,590	\$780,076

Secretary of State

Jones(R)	\$799,041	\$549,591	\$405,092
Miller(D)	\$691,410	\$599,305	\$116,109

Insurance Commissioner

Quackenbush(R)	\$1.47 mil	\$732,112	\$734,134
Torres(D)	\$1.31 mil	\$891,127	\$314,385

U.S. SEN. FEINSTEIN AT COMMONWEALTH CLUB.

U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D-CA) will address members of the Commonwealth Club of CA, 11:45 a.m., Oct. 21, Grand Ballroom, St. Francis Hotel, S.F. For info & RSVPs (415)597-6705...

SEN. LEONARD AT CALIF. LINCOLN CLUB OCT. 21.

State Sen. Bill Leonard will be the featured speaker at the Oct. 21st breakfast hosted by the San Gabriel Valley chpt. of the CA Lincoln Club. Breakfast at 7:30 a.m., Industry Hills Sheraton. For info or RSV call Natalie Blanning at (818)249-4205...